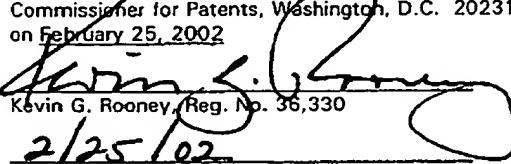


PATENT
6/1/03
B. Webb
7/16/03

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on February 25, 2002


Kevin G. Rooney, Reg. No. 36,330

2/25/02
Date

Applicants: Mark Ortiz et al.
Serial No: 09/677,981
Filing Date: October 3, 2000
Art Unit: 3762
Examiner: Scott M. Getzow
Title: IMPLANTABLE HEART ASSIST DEVICES AND METHODS
Atty Docket: SPEN-08

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

February 25, 2002

**AMENDMENT AND
RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-4 and 6-8 as follows:

- a1
1. (Amended) A device for supporting a heart having left and right ventricles separated by an interventricular septum, the device comprising: